



THE RICE COUNTY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY
408 Division Street, Northfield, MN 55057

2009 Spring Issue

The Rice County Genealogical Society meets at 2:00 p.m. on the 3rd Tuesday on even months at the Rice County Historical Society Museum, 1814 NW 2nd Avenue, Faribault, and on odd months in the Marston Headley Research Room in the lower level of the Northfield Historical Society Building, 408 Division Street, Northfield. Meetings are suspended during June, July and August. Special meetings may be called for research trips or for working on projects.

MEETING DATES:

Jan. 20, 2009
Feb. 17, 2009
Mar. 17, 2009
Apr. 21, 2009
May 19, 2009

Sept. 15, 2009
Oct. 20, 2009

Nov. 17, 2009
Dec. 15, 2009

Northfield: 2:00 regular meeting.
Faribault: 2:00 regular meeting.
Northfield: 2:00 regular meeting. Newsletter items due
Faribault: 2:00 regular meeting. Newsletter items due
Northfield: 2:00 regular meeting Approve the Spring
2009 Newsletter and set date for printing and mailing
Northfield: 2:00 regular meeting. Newsletter items due
Faribault: 2:00 regular meeting. Approve the Fall
2009 Newsletter and set date for printing and mailing.
Northfield: 2:00 regular meeting.
Election of officers for 2010. Dues for 2010 due.
Faribault: 11:30 Annual Christmas get-together at The
Depot. 2:00 short meeting at the Rice Co. Historical
Society Museum. Final date for 2010 dues to be paid.
Trip to review records at Wheeling Twp.

To be scheduled:

OFFICERS:

President.....Audrey DeMann
Vice President.....Arlene Williams
Secretary-Treasurer.....Dorothy Herkenratt
Newsletter Editor/Publisher Dorothy Herkenratt

Dues are for the calendar year and are \$10
for an individual and \$12 for a family.
The newsletter is included with membership

Members currently are actively working on their family lines and in searching out the history of those who came to live in or who passed through Rice County. When we have queries from others not in our family lines who seek help on their research projects, we refer them to one of our current members who is willing to do research for a fee. To secure more information on services she offers and her fee schedule, please contact her directly: Norma Gilbertson, 808 E. 5th St., Northfield, MN 55057 Ph.: 507-664-9591 e.mail: njgilber@rconnect.com

Please call ahead to schedule research in the Marston Headley Research Room.

Great-Grandparents of Dorothy Chester Herkenratt (Mrs. Richard Herkenratt)
Contact Dorothy by writing to 2405 NW 2nd Ave., Faribault, MN 55021

Job J. Chester

Date of Birth: 22 July 1818
Place of Birth: Naseby, Northamptonshire, England
Marriage: 5 September 1844
Place of Marriage: Alton, Madison Co., Illinois
Death: 5 March 1897
Place of Death: at home, Bridgewater Twp., Rice Co., Minnesota

Anne Maria Jeffries

Date of Birth: 26 May 1816
Place of Birth: Halifax, Nova Scotia, Canada
Death: 12 November 1912
Place of Death: at home, Bridgewater Twp., Rice Co., Minnesota

Job J. and Anne Maria Jeffries Chester were some of the first settlers in Bridgewater Twp., Rice Co., MN, Job having staked the first claim in the township in March 1854 in section twenty-five along the Indian trail north and east of the fur trading settlement established by Alexander Faribault. Anne Maria was the first white woman to live in Bridgewater Twp. Most of the history of this family was passed down both in written and oral form and as many of the records, the family Bible, portraits, and photo albums were destroyed in a fire at the original homestead of their son William, it has been a labor of love verifying what has been handed down.

Job Chester was the third son of William Arthur Chester (1779-1828) and Amelia "Nellie" Perrin (1790-1877). Because in England you only owned a 99-year lease and not the land outright, William came to America to look into the feasibility of moving his family here, secured land in the wilderness near Avon, Lorain Co., OH through the Connecticut Land Grant Company, lived there among the Indians long enough to build a log cabin, returned to England to bring the family to America, but died before he could do so. Job's widowed mother on 20 April 1829 married John Henry Fretter (1770-1846), a widower with whom she had two daughters. In 1833 the Chester lease was sold, and John and Amelia Chester Fretter together with the five Chester children (William Arthur, John Cooke, Job J., Matilda and Reuben), the two Fretter daughters (Elizabeth "Betsy" and Lucy) and one of John's sons (Thomas) with his first wife Mary Oliver, left Liverpool, England aboard the Barque (ship) Ruckers and arrived in Philadelphia 2 July 1833, where the family remained for a year before moving to the English settlement near Avon, Lorain Co., OH which was twenty miles from Cleveland at that time. It had taken six weeks for the ship to cross the ocean. Job said that as far back as he knew, the Chester family had been farmers in England, so it was natural that they should farm in America.

Because it is known from documents in England that the Chesters were able to both read and write, it was a given that upon reaching America those in the family who had not finished their education went to school as well as helped with farming. When Job finished his education, he moved to Cleveland where for five years he was engaged as a porter in a wholesale house. He then moved to St. Louis, MO where he worked in a meat-packing plant for another two years. While there, he married Anne Maria Jeffries in Alton, IL across the river from St. Louis.

Anne Maria Jeffries was the daughter of William and Kaziah Hatfield Jeffries who had come to Halifax, Nova Scotia from England about 1814. William Jeffries, who died about 1820, was a paymaster in the English army stationed in Halifax. The widowed Keziah married a Mr. Rogers about 1825. Kaziah died about 1829 when Anne Jeffries was 13 years old. The step-father placed Anne and her two young sisters, Charlotte and Kaziah, in a girls' boarding school in Montreal, Quebec where they learned not only mathematics, history, geography, English, spelling and deportment, but also to be fluent in French. The family records for this family started by Kaziah Hatfield Jeffries Rogers as well as the Chester family's were written down on a long sheet of "butcher" paper by her daughter Anne Maria Jeffries Chester. This Anne Maria drilled her daughter Anne Maria Chester in family lore, and Anne Maria (Great-aunt Annie) in turn would drive her two eldest nieces, Annie Blanche and Charlotte Chester, around the countryside and drill them in family history. Annie Blanche in turn kept the records until her death in 1961 after which the family home in Dundas (referred to as the Archibald-Martin House/Martin Oaks Bed and Breakfast on the National Register of Historic Places) was sold. The family heirlooms which were saved were stored in the home built in Cannon City Twp. by William F. Chester, which later burned. Why were the Jeffries girls educated by their step-father? The family record now lost showed that Anne Jeffries Chester's grandmother and Queen Victoria's mother were sisters.

Anne Maria, Charlotte and Kaziah Jeffries all took positions as nursery governesses for wealthy families in Cleveland, OH after completing their educations, and while here Anne Maria met Job Chester. The family who

Job J. Chester and Anne Jeffries (continued)

employed Anne Maria moved to St. Louis, MO where Job had taken a job in a meat-packing plant. Anne Maria and Job were married in 1844, and after their marriage, Job and Anne Maria went back to OH to visit relatives before moving on to WI where they used Job's savings to buy a farm in Racine Co. and where the family remained for eight years. Alexander Faribault had been seeking settlers to come to the Faribault area and Job, deciding to see what the prospects were, traveled by stage and by walking to MN, and was advised that good land could be had along the Indian trail east and north of Faribault. So by March of 1854, Job staked out the first claim in Bridgewater Twp., locating it on section twenty-five. This was a year after Alexander Faribault had come to settle Faribault and before Northfield or Dundas were even established. After filing his claim, Job returned to WI to sell his farm and wait for warmer weather before starting by ox team and covered wagon for his claim with Anne Maria and their four children (Job Jeffries age 8, William Frederick age 5, Anne Maria age 3, and Edward Clarence "Ned" age 1), taking with them a cow, poultry and, in the covered wagon, farm implements, household goods, seeds and plants. They crossed the Mississippi by raft at Stillwater, went on to St. Paul, then pushed down south along an Indian trail, crossing the Cannon River near Waterford, following the trail to their new homestead east of the Indian trail, which later was known as the East Cannon City Road, arriving June 10, 1854. This farm was well situated as it had a small lake on it. I should add that a fifth child, Mary, died in infancy and was buried on the homestead.

While in England, the Chesters farmed land just outside of the town of Naseby, a farm that had been established for generations and was well-groomed. When they arrived in Ohio, they found a near wilderness just being settled and farmed, but they used the same techniques that had served them well before. When Job moved west to WI, again the area was already being farmed and farming was not too difficult. It must have been a difficult decision for Job and Anne to make to leave WI for MN where he could own more land and establish his family for he had been tempted to remain in WI and accept Mr. Case's offer to join him in manufacturing farm implements. However, the story that has come down in the family says that Job and his family worked hard after their arrival in June, Anne spading up and planting a garden with the seeds and potatoes they brought with them, Job hunting the abundant game, and all helping harvest nuts and fruits from the forest and meadow for themselves and hay for their livestock. Job had to cut the hay with a scythe, rake it with a hand rake after it dried, with all helping to get it stacked for winter. Job used to tell that he had never seen a garden grow such large and tasty vegetables so fast as those from that first garden plot. In addition to Anne's planting the garden, Job broke up prairie sod for a small crop of grain and flint corn for the winter. The family continued to live in their covered wagon until winter by which time Job had cut logs and built a log cabin for them and a shed for the livestock. Of course, as expected, the older children worked along side of their parents. Not all was drab as there were beautiful wild flowers in both the woods and prairie which they picked for decorating their home: wild roses, red lilies, larkspur, daisies, crocus, Dutchmen's britches, trillium, and fern among others. When the area was more settled, the family took time to plant a variety of flowers to enjoy.

In the beginning, all cooking was done over a camp fire, washing was done at the lake, bedding was stuffed with meadow hay, and water carried in buckets to the campsite. Lye was leached from ashes and combined with saved fat to make soap. With the move into the log home, the arrival of a stove made living much more comfortable. In time Job constructed a large frame house which nearly duplicated the Chester family home in Ohio, and the family home reflected that of any prosperous home in the East.

Alexander Faribault, as he did with all new settlers, advised Job and Anne on how to get along with their Indian neighbors: 1) Never show any fear and 2) when asked by an Indian for food or for hay or grain for their horses, never just give them some as they would continue to ask for more. They should be told to help themselves, for their honor would require them to take only what was absolutely necessary and nothing more. As many of the Indians were also French speaking, it probably helped that Anne was fluent in French. You could tell that the Chester family dealt well with their Indian neighbors. The first fall when Job went to St. Paul for provisions, a trip that would take several days, some Indians who were camped in a grove close to the log cabin learned that the family was short of food and brought them wild game and wild rice. Another time when Job left with grain to be ground in Hastings and a snowstorm came up in his absence, Indians also came to make sure the Chester family had sufficient wood and provisions to carry them through until Job should return. On the other hand, Job used to tell of a Sioux Indian who had been on the warpath coming along the trail from Red Wing one Sunday morning, chancing upon the teepee of a Chippewa Indian who, with his wife and five children, was sleeping. He had scalped the whole family and put their scalps on a hoop. When stopping at the Chesters, the Indian went through the motions of doing the scalping with Job, and Job, who could look very stern when necessary, followed Alexander Faribault's advice and looked the Indian squarely in the eyes until he went away.

Job also used to tell of Little Crow, a Sioux Indian chief, who, with James Wells, came along the trail and

Job J. Chester and Anne Jeffries (continued)

stopped for dinner with the Chester family. James Wells was living at Faribault at that time and was some type of government official who had been to Washington in the interest of the Indians.

Other families who came about the same time as Job's were the Bundays, the Larkins, the Dr. Schofields and the Drakes. So the area became settled in a very short time. While the Chester children had been schooled by their mother, they and the other children later attended school in a log school house in the woods until a more modern school was built.

After Job was settled, he was so taken with the area and its prospects, he wrote back to Ohio to urge the rest of the families to come west. His two half-sisters, Elizabeth "Betsy" Fretter Cheney (Mrs. Luke) and Lucy Fretter Spriggs (Mrs. Joseph), and their families, and his mother, Amelia Perrin Chester Fretter, did come, but the rest of the Chester, Perrin and Fretter families remained in Ohio, Indiana and Michigan.

While the Chesters and Perrins both in England and America were Baptists, the Jeffries and Hatfields had belonged to the Church of England in the old country, and the William and Kaziah Jeffries family became Anglicans in Canada. After the Episcopal Church of the Holy Cross in Dundas and the Cathedral of Our Merciful Saviour in Faribault were built, Job and Anne Maria and the Chester family became Episcopalians. Most of their descendants remain of that faith.

Job Chester lived 78 yrs., 7 mo. and 11 days and died of pneumonia in the home he built with Anne Maria. He was known as an intelligent, educated, religious, honest, frugal man, a good neighbor, one interested in agricultural improvements and public affairs, and one who had accumulated considerable wealth. He saw two of his sons, Job J. and William (my grandfather) marry and become wealthy land owners; Anne Maria attended St. Mary's Hall, became a school teacher and the care giver for her parents and brother Edward "Ned" who had also accumulated land holdings. Job J. and Eleanor Hoyt Chester gave Job and Anne Maria three grandchildren: William Everett who married Carrie Della Weltsie, Mary Etta (Mrs. Joseph T. Holmes), and Anne Jeffries (Mrs. Chester W. Terry). William Frederick and Sarah Frances Covert Chester gave Job and Anne Maria six more grandchildren: Annie Blanche (who never married), Edward Ogden (my father) who married Ethel May Orr, Charlotte Frances (Mrs. Arthur W. Schrader), Frederick William who married Mabel Grace Nason, Ralph Cleveland who married Elizabeth Margaret "Bessie" Siemers, and Olive Victoria who married Prof. James D. Collison. These six either were, or married women who were, teachers.

Anne Jeffries Chester attained the age of 96 yrs., 5 mo. and 17 days and also died in the home she and Job had built. Her death followed a hip fracture suffered about three months earlier. She was known to be an intelligent, educated woman interested in her family, her neighbors, education, and local and national affairs.

Their children, Anne Maria and Edward "Ned" Clarence, also died on the original homestead.

Job Chester's mother, Amelia Perrin Chester Fretter, died in Bridgewater Twp. at the age of 87 yrs., 3 mo. and 23 days.

All five are interred in Groveland Cemetery, Dundas, Rice Co. with a large gray granite monument inscribed on two panels on the front "Job Chester Born in Naseby Eng. July 22, 1818 Died Mar. 5, 1897" and "Anne Jeffries Chester Born in Halifax Nova Scotia May 26, 1816 Died Nov. 12, 1912". On the back (east) two panels are "Amelia Perrin Fretter His Mother Born Jan. 10, 1790 Died May 3, 1877" and "Anne M. Chester Born Racine, Wis. Mar. 24, 1851 Died Aug. 23, 1914", and on the south side appears "Edward Chester Born in Racine WS. Dec. 12, 1852 Died Jan 12, 1816". The north side remains blank.

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The following are are examples of materials that might accompany the above:

- 1) a 3-generation Descendants Chart for Job J. and Anne Maria Jeffries Chester
- 2) a Family Group Record for Job J. and Anne Maria Jeffries Chester
- 3) an Individual Data Summary for Job J. Chester b. 22 July 1818 with symbol showing that there is background information and data source records

NOTE: You will note that all individuals listed on these records are deceased so that no information on those living is revealed. Only the individual data summary sheet still shows identifying numbers.

-
- 1— Job J. CHESTER (1818)
 - sp- Anne Maria JEFFRIES (1816)
 - 2— Job Jeffries CHESTER (1845)
 - sp- Eleanor HOYT (1849)
 - 3— William Everett CHESTER (1869)
 - sp- Carrie Della WILTSEY "Della" (1871)
 - 3— Mary Etta CHESTER (1871)
 - sp- Joseph Theodore HOLMES (1870)
 - 3— Anne Jeffries CHESTER (1873)
 - sp- Chester Wayne TERRY (1867)
 - 2— William Frederick CHESTER (1848)
 - sp- Sarah Frances COVERT (1855)
 - 3— Annie Blanche CHESTER (1879)
 - 3— Edward Ogden CHESTER (1880)
 - sp- Ethel May ORR (1889)
 - 3— Charlotte Frances CHESTER (1885)
 - sp- Arthur William SCHRADER (1889)
 - 3— Frederick William Tell CHESTER (1886)
 - sp- Mabel Grace NASON (1892)
 - 3— Ralph Cleveland CHESTER (1891)
 - sp- Elizabeth Margaret SIEMERS "Bessie" (1900)
 - 3— Olive Victoria CHESTER (1895)
 - sp- James Daniel COLLISON Prof. (1883)
 - 2— Anne Maria CHESTER (1851)
 - 2— Edward "Ned" Clarence CHESTER (1852)
 - 2— Mary CHESTER
-

NOTE:

I had planned to include a 4 generation descendants charts for WILLIAM ARTHUR CHESTER born 1779 Naseby, Northamptonshire, ENG - died 1 July 1828 Naseby, Northamptonshire ENG who married 23 Sep. 1811 in Naseby AMELIA "NELLIE" PERRIN born 10 Jan. 1790 Naseby, Northamptonshire, ENG - died 3 May 1877 Bridgewater Twp.; Rice Co., MN

and

JOHN H(ENRY) FRETTER born 1770 Naseby, Northamptonshire, ENG - died 13 July 1846 Avon, Lorain Co., OH who married in Naseby as his 3rd wife MRS. AMELIA "NELLIE" PERRIN CHESTER (above).

However, this would have shown a Chester-Perrin chart which includes to date 100 individuals on 3 pages and the Fretter-Perrin Chester chart which includes 76 individuals on 2 pages, too many for this publication.

Family Group Record

Page 1

Husband: Job J. CHESTER			
Born:	22 Jul 1818	Place: Naseby, Northamptonshire, ENG	Bap.:
Chr.:	4 Mar 1821	Place: Naseby, Northamptonshire, ENG	End.:
Died:	5 Mar 1897	Place: Bridgewater Twp, Rice Co, MN, at home	Slg P:
Bur.:	7 Mar 1897	Place: Groveland Cem, Dundas, Rice Co, MN	
Marr:	5 Sep 1844	Place: Alton, Madison Co, IL	Slg S:
Father: William Arthur CHESTER		Mother: Amelia "Nellie" PERRIN	
Wife: Anne Maria JEFFRIES			
Born:	26 May 1816	Place: Halifax, Nova Scotia, Canada	Bap.:
Chr.:		Place:	End.:
Died:	12 Nov 1912	Place: Bridgewater Twp, Rice Co, MN, at home	Slg P:
Bur.:	14 Nov 1912	Place: Groveland Cem, Dundas, Rice Co, MN	
Father: William JEFFRIES		Mother: Keziah HATFIELD	
Sex Children	List each child (living or dead)		LDS Ordinance Data
M/F	in order of birth		for Children
1.	Name: Job Jeffries CHESTER Spouse: Eleanor HOYT		
M	Born:	28 Jul 1845	Place: Racine Co, WI
	Chr.:	14 Feb 1874	Place: HolyCrossEpis.Ch, Dundas, Rice Co, MN
	Died:	26 Jul 1930	Place: Dundas, Rice Co, MN, at home
	Bur.:	28 Jul 1930	Place: Groveland Cem, Dundas, Rice Co, MN
	Marr:	1 Mar 1869	Place: Dundas, Rice Co, MN
2.	Name: William Frederick CHESTER Spouse: Sarah Frances COVERT		
M	Born:	21 Nov 1848	Place: Racine Co, WI
	Chr.:		Place:
	Died:	9 Jul 1929	Place: Dundas, Rice Co., MN, at home
	Bur.:	12 Jul 1929	Place: Maple Lawn Cem, Faribault, Rice Co., MN
	Marr:	3 Jul 1878	Place: Covert home, Wheeling Twp, Rice Co., MN
3.	Name: Anne Maria CHESTER Spouse:		
F	Born:	24 Mar 1851	Place: Racine Co, WI
	Chr.:	2 Apr 1871	Place: Cath.OurMerc.Sav,Faribault,Rice Co.,MN
	Died:	23 Aug 1914	Place: Bridgewater Twp, Rice Co, MN
	Bur.:	25 Aug 1914	Place: Groveland Cem, Dundas, Rice Co, MN
	Marr:		Place:
4.	Name: Edward "Ned" Clarence CHESTER Spouse:		
M	Born:	12 Dec 1852	Place: Racine Co, WI
	Chr.:		Place:
	Died:	12 Jan 1916	Place: Bridgewater Twp, Rice Co, MN, at home
	Bur.:	14 Jan 1916	Place: Groveland Cem, Dundas, Rice Co, MN
	Marr:		Place:
5.	Name: Mary CHESTER Spouse:		
F	Born:		Place: Bridgewater Twp, Rice Co, MN
	Chr.:		Place:
	Died:		Place: Bridgewater Twp, Rice Co, MN, (infant)
	Bur.:		Place: Homestead, Bridgewater Twp, Rice Co, MN
	Marr:		Place:

Name and Address of Submitter:
Dorothy Ann (Chester) Herkenratt
2405 N.W. 2nd Ave.
Faribault, MN 55021
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Phone: 507 334-3481

Relationship of Submitter to Husband: _____ Wife: _____

INDIVIDUAL DATA (Summary)

Page 1

Sex: M	Surname: CHESTER	RIN: 73
	Given1: Job Given3:	Given2: J. Title:
BIRTH	Date: 22 Jul 1818	
PLACE	Level 1: Naseby Level 3: ENG	Level 2: Northamptonshire Level 4:
CHRISTENING	Date: 4 Mar 1821	
PLACE	L 1: Naseby L 3: ENG	L 2: Northamptonshire L 4:
DEATH	Date: 5 Mar 1897	
PLACE	L 1: Bridgewater Twp L 3: MN	L 2: Rice Co L 4: at home
BURIAL	Date: 7 Mar 1897	
PLACE	L 1: Groveland Cem L 3: Rice Co	L 2: Dundas L 4: MN
ID NO.:		

Father: William Arthur CHESTER -78**Mother:** Amelia "Nellie" PERRIN -79

MARRIAGE(S)

MRIN	Spouse Name	Marriage Date
23	Anne Maria JEFFRIES -72	5 Sep 1844

NOTE:

The note pad indicated above includes a Chester History paper by Mary Chester Holmes; notes on conversations with Marjorie Chester Prindle; copies of information sent by Norbert Carl Chester "Nick"; information on the Connecticut Land Grant papers; ship passenger papers for the Barque Ruckers naming those in the Chester-Perrin group with ages, dates and place of departure and arrival; information left for his family by Job Chester; possible middle name of John if following naming tradition; information on birth and death, including certificates; copy of marriage records; copies of obituaries; cemetery records; notes from his sister's diary about Job's last days, death and burial; article from Lillie Clara Berg's *Early Pioneers and Indians*; census records; articles from Rice Co. histories; research notes from Harriet Berg; research notes on trips to the Rice Co. Government Center and Bridgewater Twp. for records; etc.

GIFTS RECEIVED FOR THE LIBRARY

The gift of a pictorial history/genealogy of the Petersen family which came to this country from Denmark entitled *A Petersen Family Genealogy & Family History: A Danish Family from Denmark* was received from **Mrs. Fran L. Bolle Rivard, B.A.** of Coon Rapids, MN. This is a collage of photos, family stories, post cards from Denmark, etc., a different approach to recording a family's history. Mrs. Bolle Rivard said copies were being given family members as Christmas gifts and stressed that other Danish Petersens might use the material if seeking Danish-American relatives who are descendants of the original "three master Danish tailors" who came to America for a better life, which they found. She has asked the younger generations of the Petersens to copy her book and pass it on to future generations. A subsequent letter from Mrs. Bolle Rivard has been placed with her book as it supplies more information of interest to those who would use the volume in their research.

Dr. Roy Anderson has contributed a copy of his new book *Gold, Steel, and Peaches - The Summer of 1956*, an autobiographical account which he has written with help from Don J. Chaputa and Alan Cohen, two of his school chums from the Pennsylvania College of Optometry. It is a highly entertaining account of the adventures and escapades the three had during the summer 1956 school break when they traveled in Roy's '50 Ford V-8 from Pennsylvania to Roy's home in Mankato, MN, where the car was modified for their trip. They traveled north and west to Fargo and on to Alaska, over the rugged Alcan Highway, where they sought employment, first with the Odum Company in Fairbanks unloading beverage trucks, then just north of there in the placer gold fields at Fairbanks Creek and at Dome Creek. After leaving Alaska, the trio traveled through British Columbia to Seattle and on to CA where first they worked for Aramco Steel Company building bins with fill to shore up CA U.S. Hwy. #101 near Legget, then on to near Modesto where they worked in the peach orchards for the Del Monte Corporation at the time Cesar Chavez was trying to organize a union of the workers. From there they made their way home via Salt Lake City and Denver with Roy driving his car and his buddies taking planes home to PA. The book also includes maps, autobiographical sketches of the three men with photos of the families plus others connected to the trip. Individuals interested in purchasing a copy of this book can contact Roy at 936 3rd Street NE, Faribault, MN 55021.

INFORMATION ON THE PRAIRIEVILLE CEMETERY RESTORATION PROJECT

Following the September meeting, **Peggy Kelly, Susan and Tim Lloyd** presented a very interesting program on their project in the restoration of the Prairieville Cemetery. Peggy said she became involved while helping the Lloyds in researching Isaac Barrick (21 Dec. 1793 - 13 Dec. 1880), an ancestor of Tim Lloyd. The work at the cemetery was started by Dallas Drake who was searching for the graves of great-great grandparents on his mother's side. After locating grave sites, he erected stones in their memory and also had a stone made showing the name of the cemetery. Sue brought a "Old Prairieville Cemetery List of Gravestone and Footstones" which she had prepared and which she stressed was a working list, a work in progress, and not a completed project. She also passed around several color photos, before, during and after, showing the work at the cemetery. A non-profit organization has been formed and currently they are searching for sources of funding for the continued work in the restoration. Rice County had lent the labor of sentence-to-serve persons to help clear trees and help in locating grave sites. Peggy Kelly said that originally 65 grave sites had been platted with some never used and with some bodies removed to other cemeteries in 1916. So far 44-46 graves with burials have been identified. The stones were well preserved as they had been laid flat and covered with dirt which kept the engraving from weathering. All stones recovered so far have been read and photographed. The group is working with a copy of the original plat of the cemetery on which they have recorded those who had purchased grave sites, who they have identified as being buried in the plots, researched news items, obituaries, etc. to obtain information on those whose bodies had been exhumed and reburied elsewhere, etc. John Dalby had been a great help by extracting records in his data bases which pertain to the Prairieville Cemetery. Peggy, Sue and Tim all extended an invitation to visit their "work in progress". The Lloyds have now located the grave of Isaac Barrick, whose stone identifies him as a veteran of the War of 1812, with a collection of unmarked stones, probably for additional family members not interred there.

DEATH NOTICE

Long-time member and former secretary, **Harriet Hamann**, died on March 8, 2009 at Faribault Commons care center. She did extensive research on the Thibodeau, Amrein and Hamann families. Harriet was 84 years old.

HELP WANTED

All members are encouraged to place queries with the RCGS. There is no charge and no limit to the numbers of queries per year. They will be printed as space permits and as soon as possible after they are received. Please type, print or write clearly. Words should be written in full to minimize errors. We may at our discretion use some abbreviations. Non-members will be charged a fee of \$5 per entry.

In addition, we will print group sheets, ancestor charts, pedigree or Ahnentafel (European) charts, and descendant charts for people with Rice County connections - free for members, \$2 per sheet for non-members, or we will print one free in connection with a non-member query submission. Again, they will be printed as space permits and as soon as possible after they are received. Those sending requests for help desiring to have items printed should include a note giving permission to have items included here.

REPORT ON TRIP TO GERMANY

Norma Gilbertson spoke about a trip she had taken to Germany at the invitation of a cousin. She had done family research and visited family homesites. She also had stayed a few days in the Forester's home in the village from which her ancestor had emigrated as the family home, or Shepherd's home, had been destroyed. She reported that she did, however, get to stand where the family cottage used to be.

LOOKING FOR INFORMATION ON REASONS MEMBERS HAVE JOINED RCGS

The Rice County Genealogical Society is interested in the reasons why members from a distance have joined our society, why they continue to maintain their membership, what benefits they derive, and if there is anything we could do to assist them in their research as some, while living at some distance, and even out of state, have been members for several years.. We would appreciate a letter or call so we have a better idea of how we may improve service to all of our members regardless of where they reside.

FURTHER WORK ON LIBRARY HOLDINGS DONE BY HARRIET BERG

Harriet Berg has given a gift to our library of a CD which she has prepared. It includes a listing of our library holdings and the township lists for Forest, Cannon City, Bridgewater and Northfield townships. It will be placed with the hard copies on our shelves.

PRESENTATION ON PRESERVATION OF FAMILY ITEMS

We were pleased to have as the speaker at our February meeting open to the public **Sue Garwood**, the executive director of the Rice County Historical Society. Her very interesting presentation covered many aspects of the proper items and ways to preserve family photos, fabrics and other materials for future generations. She discussed ways to make sure photos will be available by using on-line photo repositories, using archival materials in storing photos, and the necessity of making detailed identifications of photos by giving full names, dates of birth and death of individuals, if possible, when and where the photo was taken, if known, adding "Aunt Mary" to add detail, etc. Also covered was the identification of archival storage items; damage caused by lighting, dust, moisture, mold, mildew, insects, etc. Sue answered questions posed by those attending and also distributed a packet of information to supplement her presentation and offered to help those who might have a specific problem in the preservation of an item.

INFORMATION FROM THE MINNESOTA HISTORICAL SOCIETY

The following information has been received from the Minnesota Historical Society Library & Archives, 345 Kellogg Blvd. W, St. Paul, MN 55102. Phone: 1-651-259-3300; reference@mnhs.org. Hours are: Tues. noon - 8 p.m.; W-T-F 9 - 5; Sat. 9 - 4.

Birth Certificates Index: <http://www.mnhs.org/bci>
Death Certificates Index: <http://www.mnhs.org/dci>
People Finder: <http://greatriversnet.org/mhs/peoplefinder.php>
Research Services: <http://www.mnhs.org/library/about/email.htm>

Rice County Genealogical Society
408 Division Street
Northfield, MN 55057

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MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION - RENEWAL FOR 2009

(Please print)

Name

Address

Phone

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Type of Membership:

☐ Individual
☐ Family

\$10 per calendar year
\$12 per calendar year

☐ I would like to make an additional donation of \$_____ to
help the Society meet its goals.

Please make check payable to and send with this application to:

Rice County Genealogical Society
Dorothy Herkenratt, Sec.-Treas.
2405 NW 2nd Avenue
Faribault, MN 55021

Form 3/2009